

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): A pointing input device comprising:

a display panel operable to display any pointing input information on a display area ;

a transparent protective plate laminated on the display area of the display panel;

a piezoelectric substrate attached to the transparent protective plate operable to convert a deformation caused by a push against the transparent protective plate into an electric signal and further operable to output the electric signal; and

an optical touch panel disposed on the transparent protective plate operable to emit light beams for reticulately scanning an input operation area of the optical touch panel along orthogonal X and Y directions to detect a pointing input and a pointing input position in the input operation area when the light beams are intercepted by the pointing input, the input operation area having a display area that is visible through the transparent protective plate,

wherein the pointing input device determines and outputs pointing position data indicating the pointing input position while the optical touch panel detects the pointing input, and

the pointing input device outputs push detection data together with the pointing position data when the electric signal is outputted from the piezoelectric substrate and the push against

a controller operable to determine if the piezoelectric substrate has output the electric signal indicating a push against the transparent protective plate, to determine if the push against the transparent protective plate has occurred while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input, and to output push detection data together with the pointing position data only when the controller has determined that the electric signal is present during detection of the pointing input.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The pointing input device as set forth in claim 7, wherein the pointing input device outputs pointing position data detected by the optical touch panel when the controller determines that the electric signal outputted from the piezoelectric substrate is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold voltage, the push against the transparent protective plate is greater than a predetermined pushing force, and the push against the transparent protective plate occurs while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The pointing input device of claim 3, further comprising:

a controller operable to determine if the piezoelectric substrate has output the electric signal indicating a push against the transparent protective plate, to determine if the push against the transparent protective plate has occurred while the optical touch panel is detecting the pointing input, and to output push detection data together with the pointing position data only

